THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, January 16, 1792.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

AS the abolition of the ſlave trade at this time engages the attention of almoſt every friend of humanity in this kingdom; and ſince it is highly incumbent on every individual to exert his utmoſt efforts in order to ſuppreſs ſuch an ignominious traffic, I take the liberty of ſending you the following extract, as a candidate for a place in your Weekly Entertainer, if you think it will afford any amuſement to your numerous ſubſcribers.—May ſimilar circumſtances of affection and pity, make us earneſt to relinquiſh a commerce, which is of late become ſo deteſtable, oppreſſive, and cruel, as to be a ſtain to the national character of Great Britain!

"Send your ſtern gaze from Lapland to the Line,
"And every region's natives fairly ſcan,
"Their forms, their force, their faculties combine,
"And own that vaſt variety of man!"

I remain your correſpondent,

W. U.

Shafteſbury, December 21.

An IMITATION *of* STERNE.

A TALE.

"FRIEND," ſaid I, "I have nothing to give thee," addreſſing myſelf to an old blackman, covered with rags, who had approached

approached within a few ſteps of the coach door. He held a night-cap in his hand—his tongue was ſilent, but his attitude and looks were expreſſive of poverty.—I was bewitched, not to have been ſtruck with them. He had a dog, who, as well as his maſter, kept his eyes fixed upon me.

"Friend, I have nothing to give thee"—ſaid I a ſecond time.

It was a lye—it betrayed a want of feeling! I bluſhed at having ſaid it; "but," ſaid I peeviſhly to myſelf, "theſe beggars are ſo troubleſome."—"God preſerve you, Sir," ſaid he—then bowing humbly, he retired.

"Hollo! Hollo!—Horſes in a moment!"—A berlin had juſt drove up; the poſtillions were all in a buſtle.—The Negro and his dog advanced—obtained nothing—and withdrew without a murmur.

A man, who had acted improperly, as I had done, would have been vexed to meet any one who in his place would not have done the ſame.—Had the travellers in the berlin beſtowed any thing on the beggar, it would have increaſed my uneaſineſs.—"After all," ſaid I to myſelf—"are not theſe people richer than I am?"—My heart ſmote me a ſecond time.—"Great God!" cried I, "can their cruelty be an excuſe for mine?—This reflection ſet me at total variance with myſelf—I looked after the poor wretch—I wiſhed to call him back—he ſat down on a ſtone ſeat—his dog ſat before him, and affectionately reſted his head on his maſter's knees—I tranſlated his looks—"Never mind, maſter, God will provide for you."—The Negro ſtroked his head.

A ſoldier, whoſe duſty ſhoes proclaimed him a traveller, ſat down on the ſame ſeat, he laid down his knapſack, put his hat and ſword upon it, then wiped his forehead—his dog, for he alſo had a dog, ſat down at his feet, and caſt a haughty look on the paſſers-by.

The ſecond animal made me attentive to the firſt—he was black, ugly, and bare of hair—I was aſtoniſhed.—"How," quoth I to myſelf, "can the old African, reduced to the utmoſt want, ſhare a ſcanty and uncertain ſubſiſtance with a cur ſo ill-favoured?"—However, the mutual kindneſs of their looks laid open to me the cauſe of it.

"O thou! the moſt faithful, the moſt loving of all animals," ſaid I to myſelf, "thou art a friend, a companion, a brother to man! Thou alone art faithful to him in misfortune, and thou alone forſaketh him not in his poverty."

At

At that moment a window of the berlin was let down; the remains of cold meat, on which the travellers had breakfasted, fell from it; the two dogs ſprang forward, the berlin drove off like lightning, and cruſhed one of them beneath the wheel! It was the Negro's! The animal gave a cry—it was his laſt;—his maſter flew to his aſſiſtance, overwhelmed with grief and deſpair.—He did not weep—alas! he could not.

"My good man!"—cried I—He looked ſorrowfully round him!—"My good man!" ſaid I, in a ſofter tone of voice, and threw him a crown; he let it roll by him; he ſaw, but diſregarded it; he thanked me with an affectionate inclination of his head, and took the dog in his arms.

"My friend," ſaid the ſoldier, holding out his hand with the five ſhillings which he had picked up—"my friend—the worthy Engliſh gentleman gives you this money!"—He is happy," continued the ſoldier, "for he is rich, but all the world is not ſo; thou had'ſt nothing but thy dog—thou haſt loſt him! nor I any thing but mine—take him, he will ſerve thee faithfully:—At the ſame time he tied round his dog's neck, a ſmall cord which he put into the old man's hand; then patting his dog upon the head, he walked away.—"*O monſieur ſoldat,*"—cried the African as he fell on his knees, and extended his hands towards him.—The ſoldier went on—"But my bleſſing,"—ſaid the old man, riſing, "ſhall follow him wherever he goes!" "Good, and gallant fellow!"—ſaid I—"what am I, when compared with thee?—I gave the unfortunate Negro—money only—but thou gaveſt him a friend—thy only treaſure."

A Method of deſtroying the common Houſe Fly.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

YOUR correſpondent Domeſticus in your Weekly Entertainer of the 19th current, ſolicits advice in order to be relieved from one of the plagues of Egypt—I pity his caſe and I hope my advice will contribute to relieve it, and I am firmly of opinion it will, and I ſhall be glad to hear through this channel, which I always read, that he has tried it, and with what ſucceſs.

From Mr. Hart, druggiſt, in Exeter, he may have rectified oil of tar at an eaſy expence; get a quart or two of it, and with a painting bruſh liquor over ſome of the timber of the doors,

doors, windows, &c. of the infected places; repeat it a few days; fill a ſheet or two of brown paper, and lay on the floor. It is very inflammable, but the burning it in a kitchen would be a nuiſance, as it throws off a lampblack, otherwiſe it might be uſeful, as it has been known to be ſo in ſhips, by putting hot ſhot into an iron pot.

What encourages me to hope for ſucceſs in this trial, is the many accounts that I have ſeen and heard of the efficacy of this oil, from which it appears to be the greateſt antiſeptic that was ever yet diſcovered, for purifying the air, preventing infection from ſpreading, and removing nauſeous ſmells, almoſt inſtantaneouſly, and a ſpoonful uſed as before would be found ſufficient for a common room; it deſtroys bugs, lice, fleas, &c. and why not flies too?—I wiſh you to read in the European Magazine, for Auguſt 1790, a letter from Mr. White, ſurgeon to the Medical Society, London, and I believe you will be of the ſame opinion, with

Gentlemen,

Your humble ſervant,

M. D.

N. B. The efficacy of this oil is too little known, and may one day be found uſeful to thouſands in numberleſs caſes not yet diſcovered to the public.

Plymouth, December 23, 1791.

The Hiſtory of Knowledge, Learning, and Taſte, in Great Britain, during the Reign of Queen Elizabeth. Part the Second.

[From the New Annual Regiſter for the Year 1790.]

(*Continued from Page* 38.)

ONE of the moſt diſtinguiſhed mathematicians of the period was John Dee, who, if he had confined himſelf rationally to mathematical attainments, might have ſhone with extraordinary ſplendour. But his talents were mixed with abſurdities and extravagances which reflected high diſhonour upon him. He was not only deeply devoted to judicial aſtrology, but became a bold alchemiſt, and, at length, a necromancer. It is difficult to ſay, whether enthuſiaſm or roguery conſtituted the moſt prominent part of his character: But it was probably

compounded

compounded of both, and the union is far from being an uncommon thing. The whole of his life forms one of the most curious narrations in the literary history of England, and strongly paints the credulity of the times; for an extraordinary degree of attention and credit was paid to his pretensions by persons of the most elevated rank, and even by Sovereign Princes in different countries of Europe. Queen Elizabeth was not a little prejudiced in his favour. Those who wish to see the abilities, the adventures, and the various fortunes of John Dee fully displayed, may have recourse to the Biographia Britannica, where there is an article which appears to comprehend all the information concerning him that is now attainable.

The age, however, was productive of soberer mathematicians than James Bassantin and John Dee. Of this number was Thomas Digges, who directed his mathematical knowledge to the instruction of soldiers, and the improvement of military discipline. His situation probably led him to subjects of this kind; for he was Muster-Master-General of the Forces which the Queen sent to the assistance of the oppressed inhabitants of the Netherlands. Accordingly he published an arithmetical military treatise, and a geometrical work named "Stratiotocos" compendiously teaching the science of numbers, and so much of the rules and equations algebraical, as are requisite for the profession of a soldier. He wrote also, in pure mathematics, and was the author of a "Perfect Description of the Celestial Orbs, according to the most Ancient Doctrine of the Pythagoreans."

Sir John Smith, like Digges, applied his mathematical skill to military concerns, in a discourse concerning the forms and effect of divers weapons, and chiefly of musquet, caliver, and long-bow. Sir Henry Saville might here be mentioned on account of his thirteen prælections on the beginning of Euclid's Elements; but he is principally to be distinguished by his eminence in philological literature.

One of the greatest mathematical ornaments of the reign was Thomas Harriot. It was in algebra that he particularly excelled. He was the inventor of so many excellent and useful improvements in algebraical calculations, that his name still stands in high reputation, and he is deservedly ranked among those illustrious writers who have reflected honour on this country. His inventions were borrowed by Descartes, without acknowledging the obligation. But Dr. Wallis hath taken care to detect the concealment, and to do justice to Harriot's discoveries.

John

John Blagrave concludes our liſt of the geometricians of this period. The ſcience of mathematics was applied by him to practical purpoſes; and the end he propoſed was to render knowledge of this kind, which had hitherto been but in few hands, familiar to his countrymen. For this purpoſe he made it his buſineſs to ſhew the general uſefulneſs of ſuch ſtudies, and to convince his readers, that inſtead of being amuſements only fit for ſcholars and ſpeculative perſons, they were of general advantage to mankind; and indeed of indiſpenſible neceſſity for providing the conveniences of common life. He ſhewed, likewiſe, that they were far from being of hard and difficult attainment. Such views, whatever might be his ſucceſs in accompliſhing them, entitle him to applauſe.

In a period greatly devoted to navigation, and eſpecially to long voyages, the nature and properties of the loadſtone could not avoid being peculiar objects of attention. The ſubject, however, was philoſophically ſtudied much later in this country than might reaſonably have been expected. It has confidently been aſſerted, that the firſt perſon who wrote upon it in England was William Barlowe, a divine. Nay, this he is ſaid to have done twenty years before Dr. Gilbert publiſhed on the ſame ſubject. But the latter fact is contradicted by the dates of Barlowe's publication. His "Navigator's Supply" was publiſhed only in the year 1597, and his "Magnetical Advertiſement" did not appear till 1616; whereas Gilbert's Treatiſe on the Magnet was given to the public in 1600. Though Barlowe, therefore, in his earlieſt work might be led to a particular diſplay of the qualities and uſes of the loadſtone, ſtill he preceded Gilbert no more than three years. But independently of any diſcuſſions of this kind, William Barlowe is honourably diſtinguiſhed by his induſtry in ſearching, and his happineſs in finding out, many uncommon magnetical ſecrets. He was the firſt that made the inclinatory inſtrument tranſparent, and to vibrate hanging, with a glaſs on both ſides, and ring at the top. He was, likewiſe, the firſt that found out the difference between iron and ſteel, and their tempers for magnetical uſes. By him, alſo, was firſt ſtudied the right way of touching magnetical needles; and he invented the piecing and cementing of loadſtones. Finally, he was the firſt that diſplayed the reaſons, why a loadſtone being doubly capped, muſt take up ſo great a weight.

Nor is leſs praiſe due to Dr. William Gilbert, for his work on the magnet and magnetical bodies, and that great magnet the earth. This work was well received by the literary world

in general, though it ſeems to have been more celebrated abroad than at home. We are informed by an ingenious writer, that Gilbert's treatiſe "is not only the earlieſt complete ſyſtem of magnetiſm, but alſo one of the firſt ſpecimens of a philoſophical ſyſtem built upon experiments, after the manner ſo much inſiſted on afterward by the great Lord Bacon. It is copious, methodical, and accurate; as might be expected from an author who kept his manuſcript under reviſion near double the time recommended by Horace. He begins with relating all that had been obſerved by the ancients and moderns on the nature of the magnet; and among the latter mentions ſeveral of our countrymen, to whom both the variation and declination of the needle were known. The diſcovery of thi• laſt property particularly, he aſcribes to one Robert Norman. Then, after having diſcuſſed the various names of the loadſtone, and their etymology, he devotes the reſt of the book to an account of its various phenomena and properties. Theſe he divides into the following heads: 1. Its attraction. 2. Its direction to the poles of the earth, and the earth's verticity and fixedneſs to thoſe points of the world. 3. Its variation. 4. Its declination. All theſe he illuſtrates by a multitude of experiments, and various diagrams; and he attempts to account for the whole upon the hypotheſis of the earth's being one vaſt magnet. Various practical inferences of importance to navigation are deduced, particularly the great uſe of the declination in diſcovering the latitude at ſea*.—We have been the more copious in our notice of Dr. Gilbert's performance, on account of the laudable example he ſet of endeavouring to build philoſophy on the baſis of experiment. It is to his honour that he ſhook off the fetters of Ariſtotle, though he was not always ſo ſucceſsful in building up ſyſtems, as in pulling them down. Beſide his treatiſe on the loadſtone, he manifeſted his attention to the nautical art, by the invention of two inſtruments of very ingenious mechaniſm, for aſcertaining the latitude of any place, without the aſſiſtance of the ſun, moon, or ſtars.

The enterprizing ſpirit of the age, with regard to voyages of diſcovery, muſt not be forgotten. That ſpirit was, indeed, principally excited by the deſire of gain; but this was not univerſally, or at leaſt not totally the caſe. It cannot reaſonably be doubted but that in ſome perſons more laudable motives were mixed with the ſelfiſh ones. Their undertakings proceeded from the increaſe of knowledge, were animated by the love of it,

* Aikin.

it, and contributed to the advancement of knowledge in return. That the navigators and discoverers of Queen Elizabeth's reign shone with distinguished lustre will be evident when we mention the names of Hawkins, Clifford, Frobisher, Gilbert, Davis, Raleigh, Cavendish, and Drake.

Sir John Hawkins was one of the chief supports of the English navy, at a time when its glory was very conspicuous. He was eminent as a seaman, and a sea commander; but the nature and object of his earlier expeditions cast a strong shade on his memory. They were undertaken to procure slaves, and with not much regard to the manner of obtaining them, for the purposes of selling them to the Spaniards. It is therefore the less to be regretted that he did not succeed in his later enterprises, and that he sunk under misfortunes and disappointments.

George Clifford, third Earl of Cumberland, was inspired with all the enthusiasm of the period for naval exploits. He planned no less than eleven voyages, in far the larger part of which he commanded in person. His success was not always correspondent to his expectations and his abilities; but there is nothing which is more liable to failure than adventures by sea. The accidents of wind and weather, and a thousand unforeseen circumstances, may render abortive the designs which appear to be formed with the most consummate skill and wisdom.

Sir Martin Frobisher, Sir Humphrey Gilbert, and John Davis, were each of them ardently and repeatedly concerned at different times, and in different voyages, in the attainment of an object, which in that age excited the particular zeal and ambition of the public. This was the discovery of a north-west passage to China and the East-Indies. Frobisher was the first Englishman by whom the attempt was made; and Gilbert wrote a treatise in a masterly style of composition, to shew the practicability and importance of the undertaking. That it was not successful under any of the three great navigators, who engaged in it, cannot be unknown to our readers; nor is it necessary to add that similar efforts, which have been revived and carried on with extraordinary vigour in our own day, have equally failed of success. The great Cook found that nature had erected insuperable bars against the accomplishment of this grand point. However, the voyages of Frobisher, Gilbert, and Davis, were of considerable utility. New seas were explored, and new lands discovered, from the knowledge of which considerable benefits have been derived in subsequent periods. The straits to which Davis gave the name, are of no small celebrity in geographical discussion.

(To be continued.)

The

The Hiſtory of the Life of Baron Trenck. In which is introduced a particular Account of the extraordinary Sufferings which he underwent by Command of the late King of Pruſſia.

[Extracted from his own Narrative.]

(*Continued from Page* 35.)

UNDER ſuch circumſtances, had Prince Charles continued to haraſs us, by purſuing us into Sileſia, had he made a winter campaign, inſtead of remaining indolently at eaſe in Bohemia, we certainly ſhould not have vanquiſhed him, the year following, at Strigan; but he only followed at a diſtance, as far as the Bohemian frontiers. This gave Frederic time to recover, and the more effectually becauſe the Auſtrians had the imprudence to permit the return of deſerters.

This was a repetition of what had happened to Charles XII. when he ſuffered his Ruſſian priſoners to return home, who afterwards ſo effectually puniſhed his contempt of them at the battle of Pultawa.

Prague was obliged to be abandoned with conſiderable loſs; and Trenck ſeized on Tabor, Budweis, and Frauenberg, where he took priſoners the regiments of Walrabe and Kreutz.

No one would have been better able to give a faithful hiſtory of this campaign than myſelf, had I room, and had I at that time been more attentive to things of moment; ſince I not only performed the office of Adjutant to the King, when he went to reconnoitre, or chooſe a place of encampment, but it was, moreover, my duty to provide forage for the head quarters. The King having only permitted me to take ſix volunteers from the body guard, to execute this latter duty, I was obliged to add to them horſe chaſſeurs, and huſſars, with whom I was continually in motion. I was peculiarly fortunate on two occaſions, by happening to come after the enemy, when they had left loaded waggons and forage bundles.

I ſeldom paſſed the night in my tent during this campaign, and my indefatigable activity obtained the favour and entire confidence of Frederic. Nothing ſo much contributed to inſpire me with emulation, as the public praiſes I received, and my enthuſiaſm wiſhed to perform wonders. The campaign however but ill ſupplied me with opportunities to diſplay my youthful ardour.

At length, no one durst leave the camp, notwithstanding the extremity of the dearth, because of the innumerable clouds of pandours, and hussars, that hovered every where around.

No sooner were we arrived in Silesia than the King's body guard was sent to Berlin, there to remain in winter quarters.

I should not here have mentioned the Bohemian war, but that, while writing the history of my life, I ought not to omit accidents by which my future destiny was influenced.

One day, while at Bennaschen, I was commanded out with a detachment of 30 hussars, and 20 chasseurs, on a foraging party. I had posted my hussars in a convent, and gone myself, with the chasseurs, to a mansion-house, to seize the carts necessary for the conveyance of the hay and straw from a neighbouring farm. An Austrian Lieutenant of hussars, concealed with 36 horsemen in a wood, having remarked the weakness of my escort, taking advantage of the moment when my people were all employed in loading the carts, first seized our sentinel, and then fell suddenly upon them, and took them all prisoners in the very farm-yard. At this moment I was seated at my ease, beside the lady of the mansion-house, and was a spectator of the whole transaction through the window.

I was ashamed of and in despair at my negligence. The kind lady wished to hide me when the firing was heard in the farm-yard. By good fortune the hussars, whom I had stationed in the convent, had learnt from a peasant that there was an Austrian detachment in the wood; they had seen us at a distance enter the farm-yard, hastily marched to our aid, and we had not been taken more than two minutes before they arrived. I cannot express the pleasure with which I put myself at their head. Some of the enemy's party escaped through a back door, but we made 22 prisoners, with a Lieutenant of the regiment of Kalnockichen: they had two men killed and one wounded; and two also of my chasseurs were hewed down, by the sabre, in the hay-loft, where they were at work.

We continued our forage with more caution after this accident: the horses we had taken served, in part, to draw the carts; and, after raising a contribution of 150 ducats on the convent, which I distributed among the soldiers to engage them to silence, we returned to the army, from which we were distant about two leagues.

We heard firing as we marched, and the foragers on all sides were skirmishing with the enemy. A Lieutenant and 40 horse joined me; yet, with this reinforcement I durst not return to the camp, because I learnt we were in danger from more than

800 pandours

800 pandours and huſſars, who were in the plain. I therefore determined to take a long, winding, but ſecret rout, and had the good fortune to come ſafe to quarters, with my priſoners, and 25 loaded carts. The King was at dinner when I entered his tent. Having been abſent all night, it was imagined I had been taken, that accident having happened, the ſame day, to many others.

The inſtant I entered, the King demanded if I returned ſingly. "No, pleaſe your Majeſty," anſwered I, "I have brought 25 load of forage, and 22 priſoners, with their officer and horſes."

The King then commanded me to ſit down, and turning himſelf toward the Engliſh Ambaſſador, who was near him, laying his hand on my ſhoulder, *C'eſt un matador de ma jeuneſſe.**

A reconnoitring party was, at the ſame moment, in waiting before his tent; he conſequently aſked me few queſtions, and to thoſe he did I replied tremblingly. In a few minutes he roſe from table, gave a glance at the priſoners, hung the Order of Merit round my neck, commanded me to go and take repoſe, and ſet off with his party.

It is eaſy to conceive the embarraſſment of my ſituation; my unpardonable negligence deſerved that I ſhould have been broken, inſtead of which I was rewarded; an inſtance, this, of the great influence of chance on the affairs of the world. How many Generals have gained victories by the very errors, which have been afterward attributed to their genius! It is evident, the ſerjeant of huſſars, who retook me and my men, by bringing up his party, was much better entitled than myſelf to the recompence I received.

On how many occaſions have I ſince met with diſgrace and puniſhment when I deſerved reward! My inquietude leſt the truth ſhould be diſcovered was extreme, eſpecially recollecting how many people were in the ſecret; and my apprehenſions were inceſſant.

As I did not want money, I gave the ſerjeants 20 ducats each, and the ſoldiers one, in order to inſure their ſilence, which being a favourite with them, they readily promiſed. I however was determined to declare the truth the very firſt opportunity, and this happened a few days after.

* Literally, "He is a matadore of my youth." The alluſion, apparently, is to the reſiſtleſs power of the matadore at the game of quadrille.

We were on our march, and I, as Cornet, was at the head of my company, when the King, advancing, beckoned me to come to him, and bade me tell him exactly how the affair I had so lately been engaged in happened.

The question at first made me mistrust I was betrayed, but, remarking the King had a mildness in his manner, I presently recovered myself, and related the exact truth. I saw the astonishment of his countenance, but I at the same time saw he was pleased with my sincerity. He spoke to me for half an hour, not as a King, but as a father, praised my candour, and ended with the following words, which while life remains I shall never forget: "Confide in the advice I give you; depend wholly upon me, and I will make you a man." Whoever can feel may imagine how infinitely my gratitude toward the King was increased, by this his great goodness; from that moment I had no other desire than to live and die for his service.

I soon perceived the confidence the King had in me after this explanation, of which I received very frequent marks, the following winter. He permitted me to be present at his conversation with the literati of his court, and my state was truly enviable.

I received, the same winter, more than 500 ducats as presents. So much happiness could not but excite jealousy, and this began to be manifest on every side. I had too little disguise for a courtier, and my heart was much too open and frank.

Before I proceed, I will here relate an incident which happened during the last campaign, and which will, no doubt, be read in the history of Frederic.

On the route while retreating through Bohemia, the King came to Kollin, with his horse guards, the cavalry piquets of the head quarters, and the second and third battalions of guards. We had only four field pieces, and our squadron was stationed in one of the suburbs. Our advanced posts, toward evening, were driven back into the town, and the hussars entered pell mell: the enemy's light troops swarmed over the country, and my commanding officer sent me immediately to receive the King's orders. After much search, I found him at the top of a steeple, with a telescope in his hand. Never did I see him so distur ed, or undecided, as on this occasion. Orders were immediately given that we should retreat through the city into the opposite suburb, where we were to halt, but not unsaddle.

We had not been here long before a most heavy rain fell, and the night became exceedingly dark. My cousin Trinck made his approach about nine in the evening, with his Pandour and

Janissary

Janiſſary muſic, and ſet fire to ſeveral houſes. They found we were in the ſuburbs, and began to fire upon us from the city windows. The tumult became extreme; the city was too full for us to re-enter: the gate was ſhut, and they fired from above at us with our field pieces. Trenck had let in the waters upon us, and we were up to the girths by midnight, and almoſt in deſpair. We loſt ſeven men, and my horſe was wounded in the neck.

The King and all of us had certainly been made priſoners, had my couſin, as he has ſince told me, been able to continue the aſſault he had begun; but, a cannon ball having wounded him in the foot, he was carried off, and the pandours retired. The corps of Naſſau arrived next day to our aid; we quitted Kollin, and during the march the King ſaid to me, "Your couſin had nearly played us a malicious prank laſt night, but the deſerters ſay he is killed." He then aſked me what our relationſhip was, and there our converſation ended.

It was about the middle of December when we came to Berlin, where I was received with open arms. I became leſs cautious than formerly, and was more narrowly obſerved. A Lieutenant of the foot guards, who was a public Ganymede, and againſt whom I had that natural antipathy and abhorrence I have for all ſuch wretches, having indulged himſelf in ſome very impertinent jokes on the ſecret of my amour, I beſtowed on him the epithet he deſerved: we drew our ſwords, and he was wounded.

On the Sunday following, I preſented myſelf to pay my reſpects to his Majeſty on the parade, who ſaid to me, as he paſſed, "The ſtorm and the thunder ſhall rend your heart; beware."* He added nothing more.

Some little time after, I was a few minutes too late on the parade; the King remarked it, and ſent me, under arreſt, to the foot guard at Potzdam. When I had been here a fortnight, Colonel Wartenſleben came, and adviſed me to petition for pardon. I was then too much a novice in the modes of the court to follow his counſel, nor did I even remark the perſon who gave it me was himſelf a moſt ſubtle courtier. I complained bitterly of my having been ſo long deprived of liberty, for a fault which was uſually puniſhed by three, or, at the moſt, ſix days arreſt. Here accordingly I remained.

Eight

* A common expreſſion with Frederic when he was angry, and which has ſince become proverbial among Pruſſian and other German officers. See Critical Review, April, 1788.

Eight days after, the King being come to Potzdam, I was ſent by General Bourke to Berlin, to carry ſome letters, but without having ſeen the King. On my return, I preſented myſelf to him on the parade; and as our ſquadron was garriſoned at Berlin I aſked, "Does it pleaſe your Majeſty that I ſhould go and join my corps?" "Whence come you?" anſwered he— "From Berlin"—"And where were you before you went to Berlin?"—"Under arreſt."—"Then under arreſt you muſt remain."

I did not recover my liberty till three days before our departure for Sileſia, toward which we marched with the utmoſt ſpeed, in the beginning of May, to commence our ſecond campaign.

(To be continued.)

INTERESTING TRIALS.

KING's BENCH.

WEDNESDAY, December 14.

Miſs HAGAN *verſus* WALKER.

Breach of Promiſe of Marriage.

THIS was an action to recover a ſatisfaction in damages for a breach of promiſe of marriage.

William Simpſon ſaid, that he was a book-binder, and had acted alſo as a broker to the defendant. About March laſt, the defendant firſt ſaw Miſs Hagan at the houſe of a friend; he expreſſed a great affection for her perſon, and ſolicited the witneſs to introduce him to her company, ſaying, he ſhould be very happy if a marriage could be brought about between them; the witneſs accordingly introduced him, and he viſited her conſtantly till June following; he promiſed to marry her on the 12th of Auguſt laſt, and to ſettle upon her 900l. with this profeſſed deſign, he depoſited that ſum in the hands of the witneſs, as his broker: A ſhort time previous to the day on which the marriage was appointed to take place, the defendant diſcontinued his viſits, without aſſigning any reaſon. He had a fortune of 150l. per annum, and 1000l. in the funds.

Peter Allen, a ſtudent of the Middle Temple, ſaid, he had lodged with the plaintiff; ſhe was a woman of character and reputation; ſhe kept a reſpectable lodging-houſe near Lombard-ſtreet;

bard-ſtreet; her age was about 30; the defendant (who was about 50 years of age) frequently viſited her, and whenever he came, he read the Bible to her; ſhe was one of the people called Quakers, and the defendant a Methodiſt; at her ſolicitation, the witneſs paid him a viſit, to know if he intended to perform his promiſe; the defendant anſwered he did not, and that he ſhould aſſign no reaſon.

Mr. Erſkine, Counſel for the defendant, addreſſed the Court in a ſpeech of great ingenuity. He ſaid, it did not appear in evidence that the plaintiff had ſuffered in her mind, or had ſuſtained any pecuniary loſs by the defendant's refuſal to marry her. A Quaker and a Methodiſt to unite in wedlock was a dangerous coalition. Nothing could be expected from it but a perpetual war about their religious ſentiments. He ſaid, the defendant certainly had an affection for the plaintiff, but ſhe was too mercenary, and he could not afford to marry her, his property being much leſs than it was conſidered to be by the witneſſes. Mr. Erſkine called no witneſſes for the defendant.

Lord Kenyon ſaid, there were two grounds upon which actions for a breach of promiſe of marriage might be reſiſted; the one was, where a woman turns out to be deſtitute of character and reputation; the other, where ſhe impoſed terms upon the man which ſhe had no right to impoſe; but neither of theſe objections applied to the preſent caſe; the Jury would therefore conſider the whole of the caſe, and give ſuch damages as would ſatisfy juſtice, without tranſgreſſing the bounds of moderation.

The Jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, damages 50l.

THURSDAY, December 15.

MARTIN, *Eſq.* and PETRIE, *Eſq.*

THIS was an action againſt the defendant for criminal converſation with the plaintiff's wife.

The damages were laid in the declaration at 20,000l.

Mr. Bearcroft, on the part of the plaintiff, ſtated that he was the eldeſt ſon of a gentleman of large fortune in the county of Galway, in Ireland. In the year 1777 he married a lady of beauty and accompliſhments, a Miſs Veſey. With her he lived happily for the ſpace of fourteen years, having had, during that time, nine children by her. At the end of that period he was under the neceſſity of leaving his wife at Paris, where he had reſided for ſome time, and of returning to England. During his

his absence the defendant was introduced to the acquaintance of his lady, whom he after a short period seduced.

In support of the action, the following witnesses were examined.

Joseph Casteaux stated himself to be the valet de chambre of the plaintiff, with whom he had lived since the year 1779. In March 1789 his master and his mistress went to Paris, where they continued to reside till the following year. His master was then under the necessity of visiting England, for the purpose of transacting some business relative to his estates in Ireland. Mrs. Martin accompanied him as far as St. Denis, one stage from Paris, where they parted with reciprocal grief and reluctance. As soon as Mr. Martin had transacted his affairs in London, he prepared to return to the Continent, when the dissolution of the Irish Parliament rendered it necessary for him to proceed to Ireland, as he had promised to offer himself a candidate for the county town of Galway. The witness accompanied him to Ireland, whence he was dispatched early in June to Paris, in order to escort his mistress home to Ireland, because Mr. Martin found that it was impossible for him to proceed to Paris. On his arrival at Paris, he presented a letter from his master to his mistress, which she received with manifest indifference, and which, after perusing about half, she threw on the dressing table in her room. The defendant was with her at that time. The witness continued at Paris, and Mr. Petrie used to visit Mrs. Martin every day, and remain with her till two, three, four, and five o'clock in the morning. In the evenings, they were always alone. The witness first began to suspect some improper connexions between the lady and the defendant, from being desired not to interrupt them during supper time, and never to come in without being rang for. His suspicions were confirmed a short period afterwards, by seeing Mrs. Martin in a very indecent situation on the sopha in her room. Mr. Martin, in his letter to his wife, had desired her immediate return. This, however, she waved, by staying to see the grand Fœderation on the 14th of July. By subsequent delays, she put off her return till August, when she proceeded on her journey to England, in company with Mr. Petrie. At Noyons the witness saw them in bed together. On their arrival in London they went to the Royal Hotel in Pall Mall, and from thence to Mrs. Martin's aunt, in Clarges-street. At the same time Major Vesey, the brother of the plaintiff's wife, arrived from America. Mr. Petrie was introduced to him in Clarges-street, and invited him and Mrs. Martin to his seat in

Essex.

Eſſex. While they were there the Major diſcovered ſome impropriety, which made him reſolve to carry his ſiſter to Ireland.

The witneſs ſeeing theſe improprieties in the conduct of his miſtreſs, ventured to remonſtrate with her, declaring that if ſhe would return to her mother in Ireland, he would conceal every tranſaction that was diſhonourable or diſgraceful to her. The lady, however, did not comply with his requiſition. A ſhort period after ſhe eloped with the defendant, with whom ſhe ſtill continues to live.

Martha Cummings, Mrs. Martin's maid, declared that her maſter and miſtreſs, antecedent to this tranſaction, had always lived in the fondeſt and happieſt manner.

Sir Michael Cromey, and Joſeph Henry Blake, Eſq. Member of Parliament for Galway, confirmed the evidence of the laſt witneſs.

Mr. Coneys related the nature of the buſineſs that had induced Mr. Martin to leave France.

The waiter of the Ship Tavern at Brighthelmſtone declared, that, during the laſt ſeaſon, the defendant and Mrs. Martin had conſtantly ſlept there together.

On the part of the defendant no witneſſes were called.

Mr. Erſkine, his Counſel, ſtated that the caſe was not marked by any circumſtances of peculiar atrocity. The defendant and the plaintiff were total ſtrangers to each other; ſomething was to be allowed for the infirmities of human nature, and Mr. Petrie did not attempt to deny his criminality; he confeſſed it, conducting himſelf not like the rich man who thanked God that he was not like the publican, but rather demeaning himſelf with the contriteneſs of the repentant ſinner. With reſpect to his fortune, that was not ſo large as was imagined; it conſiſted entirely of property in Tobago, and it was not certain, whether from the ſituation of affairs there, he could be called a man of fortune or not. He did not wiſh to affix any blame to the conduct of the plaintiff, but merely to ſay that a huſband's prudence, in not leaving his wife, was the beſt ſecurity for her good conduct and her honour.

Lord Kenyon ſaid, that very little remained to be ſaid.—The caſe had been ſufficiently made out; and, indeed, the ingenuity of the Counſel for the defendant, ſeemed not to be a little diſtreſſed. The defendant alleged his ſorrow for his tranſgreſſions;—but had he brought forth the fruits of his repentance?—No.—So far from it, that he ſtill continued to live with the lady in open adultery, and by his conduct at Bright-

helmſtone, had contributed to increaſe the depravity of a depraved age.

The Jury, which was ſpecial, after retiring ſome time, brought in a verdict for the plaintiff, with 10,000l. damages.

Intereſting Caſe relative to Revenue Officers.

THE deciſion made by Lord Kenyon in the following caſe, manifeſtly ſhews what a ſteady friend to the liberty of the ſubject now preſides in the Court of King's-Bench.

A. *verſus* B.

A. is a carrier, and carried ſalted bacon from Scotland to England. By an Act of Parliament a permit is neceſſary. B. is a revenue officer. B. came up to A. and aſked him for his permit. A. told him that he himſelf had not got it, but it was in a cart about half a mile back. On this A's cart was ſeized. But when the other carts belonging to A. came up, and when B. ſaw the permit, he reſtored the bacon to A. on A.'s paying him 2l. 11s. A. brought an action againſt B. to recover back this ſum, and was nonſuited, ſubject to the opinion of the Court.

Lord Kenyon ſaid this revenue officer had acted wholly beſide the duty of his office. He had made his office a ſtalking-horſe to commit oppreſſion. It could not poſſibly be legal in the officer to take any ſum of money.

Mr. Serjeant Cockle, as Counſel for the defendant, ſaid, as the defendant did not find the permit in the cuſtody of A. he had a right to ſeize, otherwiſe what would become of the revenue of this country?

Lord Kenyon admitted that he had, but that it was his duty to have reſtored the bacon the moment he ſaw a permit. He was clearly of opinion that no part of this bacon was ſeizable. Was a man to paſte a permit on the forehead of the firſt horſe? It was abſurd. As to the revenue, no doubt, it muſt be collected,—but it was known the ſubjects of this country were abundantly oppreſſed by paying thoſe duties which they ought to pay, without being farther oppreſſed by the groſs miſconduct of revenue officers. The exciſe laws were intended to enforce the payment of the revenue, and not to be the engines of oppreſſion.

Mr. Serjeant

Mr. Serjeant Cockle ſaid, he underſtood that a compenſation to the officer on ſuch occaſions was uſual.

Lord Kenyon ſaid that might be, but it was directly contrary to law, and was a groſs and ſcandalous oppreſſion.

Mr. Serjeant Cockle contended that it was a voluntary payment.

Lord Kenyon ſaid it was no more a voluntary payment, than when a highwayman on Hounſlow-heath came up to a man, put a piſtol to his head, and demanded his money.

Mr. Serjeant Cockle contended that the plaintiff and defendant were *in pari delicto.*

Lord Kenyon ſaid they were no ſuch thing, in as much as the plaintiff's goods ought never to have been ſeized.

Mr. Juſtice Groſe ſaid, if an officer ſeized goods he might be right or he might be wrong, but he did it *colore officii.* But did the officer take this 2l. 11s. *colore officii?* And if he had taken it unrighteouſly, ſhould not he be bound to reſtore it?

The Court ordered the defendant to reſtore this 2l. 11s. to the plaintiff.

REFLECTIONS.

WITHOUT a mutual kindneſs and liking of the parties, marriage is, of all others, the moſt uncomfortable condition.

A wife that ſtrenuouſly employs herſelf in her domeſtic affairs, and can prudently command her own paſſions and deſires, is a ſingular ornament and honour to her huſband.

Proud and haughty perſons are ſo buſy in admiring of themſelves, that they overlook all that is valuable in others, and ſo think they owe not ſo much as common civility to other men, whilſt they ſet up themſelves to be worſhipped by all.

Cloaths are things which add no true worth to men; and, therefore, it is an intolerable vanity to ſpend much of our thoughts, time, or wealth, upon them, or deſpiſe our poor neighbours who have mean cloaths.

Let every man clothe himſelf in ſuch attire as befits his place and calling, and not think himſelf diſparaged if ſome of his neighbours have better than he.

There is more ſatisfaction in a bit of dry bread in the open field, and love and content therewith, than in a houſe full of the beſt cheer in the world, attended with brawling, contention, and ſtrife.

Anſwer, by Jane Smith, of Polruan, near Fowey, to G. Kingman's Anagram, inſerted November 21.

ABEL is a Scripture name we know,
Tranſpos'd aright BELA 'twill ſhow;
A letter change, tranſpoſe again,
And BERA will appear full plain.

‡*‡ We have received the like anſwer from Pyreneus, of Buckfaſtleigh.

Anſwer, by Theocritus, of Exeter, to a Rebus, inſerted Nov. 21.

TAKE the initials, join them true,
GARRET's the name that's brought to view.

‡ We have received the like anſwer from Young Tyro, Hannah, and Momentus, of Totnes; J. Whiteway, and Philagathus, of Dartington; J. Puddicombe, of Crediton; William Seaman, of Calverleigh; S. Hill, near Dawliſh; and A. Pinn, of Exmouth.

Anſwer, by E. Taylor, of Exeter, to B. Garret's Charade, inſerted November 28.

PEACOCK's the ſubject of your theme,
If of your thoughts I rightly deem.

‡†‡ We have received the like anſwer from Hannah, of Exmouth; W. S. of Exon; T. Walker, of Hemyock; Joſias Whiteway, Dartington; Dreadnought; and W. Seaman, of Calverleigh.

Anſwer, by J. K. C. near Wells, to Aldiborontiphorſcophornio's borrowed Enigma, inſerted November 28.

PRAY ſing no more of CARDS* in borrow'd ſtrains,
'Twill only get thee laugh'd at for thy pains.

*** We have received the like anſwer from Theocritus, E. Taylor, and W. S. of Exon; T. Gill jun. Stythians; John Tucker,

* This enigma was copied from the Entertainer of May 3, 1784.

Tucker, Penryn; J. Whiteway, Dartington; J. Puddicombe, Crediton; Momentus, W. Baker, and Young Tyro, Totnes; J. H. Lyme; Abſalom, Taunton; J. P. Crewkerne; P. Lyttleton, Tywardreath; S. Shipton, Awliſcombe; W. W. of Sturminſter; William Seaman, Calverleigh; Dreadnought; A. M. of Launceſton; and T. Walker, of Hemyock.

Anſwer, by R. Gilbert, of Crediton, to W. Upjohn's Queſtion, inſerted October 31.

A General theorem for all queſtions of a ſimilar nature is here ſubjoined. Let x be the diameter of the inſcribed circle. Then $\frac{5x}{2}$ is the hypothenuſe, and $\frac{7x}{2}$ the ſum of the baſe and perpendicular. Conſequently $\frac{5x}{2} = 47.5$, and $\frac{7x}{2} = 66.5$. Hence $x = 19$, and the required ſemi-diameter $= 9.5$.

‡ We have received the like anſwer from J. Rees, of Briſtol; W. Davies, junior, of Kenwyn; and Philomathes, of Aſhburton.

An ENIGMA, *copied by Deſire from The Ladies' Own Memorandum Book for* 1792.

ONCE more, ye fair, permit me to appear,
Within your book, where I am ev'ry year;
I love your poeſy, and your eaſy ſtrain;
I love your pieces when they're written plain;
I love the book where knowledge doth abound;
I love the leaf where learning's to be found;
I love the learned ladies for their ſkill;
I love the untaught—much againſt my will;
I love the ancient, 'cauſe I'm full of days;
I love the young, becauſe I'm fond of praiſe;
I love the lawyer, 'cauſe I like a fee;
I love the meagre, 'cauſe they're lean like me;
I love the peaſant, 'cauſe I like a clown;
I love the country, tho' I live in town;
Another hint, dear ladies, ends my lay,
I ſhun the night—but I embrace the day.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

An Epilogue ſpoken at the annual Exhibition on Tueſday Night the 20th of December, 1791, at the Rev. Mr. Langfield's School, at Beamiſter, by a Youth of Ten Years of Age.

OH happy lot, to me this night aſſign'd*
To ſpeak the feelings of a grateful mind!
The taſk ſo pleaſing, ſo divine the employ,
Prompts my young heart this banquet to enjoy.
But firſt I beg you to allay my fears—
Say you'll attend with kind indulgent ears.

This boon obtain'd my humble voice I'll raiſe,
In juſt attempts to ſpeak our parents'‡ praiſe.
With accents feeble, yet with heart-felt joy,
Expreſs the care which they for us employ.
As new ſprung flowers rear up the tender head,
And to the parent ſun their foliage ſpread:
In us juſt budding the ſame action view,
Opening we turn with gratitude to you.
You are our ſun, you have the power to raiſe,
We feel your comfort, and reflect your praiſe;
By you protected we may now take root,
Warm'd by your ſmiles here too may boldly ſhoot;
And that we more may flouriſh every hour,
Cheriſh us often with a ſmiling ſhower.
Then ſhall our leaf unfold with verdure gay,
Our flowers flouriſh as in months of May.
Our ſtalk with vigour too ſhall upwards ſhoot,
Whilſt thus we're nouriſh'd by our parent root.

To

* Addreſſed to the audience.

‡ Addreſſed to the parents.

To you, good ſir§, I next my thanks addreſs,
In accents feeble, yet with warmth expreſs;
Deign to accept the offering of my heart,
In juſt return for knowledge you impart.
Bleſt was the friend who led me to your care,
Who firſt for learning did my mind inſpire.
Led on by you the ſhining path I tread,
Where golden fruit hung pendant o'er my head.
O for the power to reach the precious ſtore,
Gather abundant, and yet wanting more,
Until my mind with virtuous learning fraught,
Cool every paſſion, regulate each thought;
Life's ocean calm'd my humble bark ſhall glide
Down time's ſwift current with a flowing tide;
Whilſt heaven-born ſcience, and the ſacred page,
Direct my courſe thro' this terreſtrial voyage;
Secure from winds, and ſtorms, and bad report,
I ſafely enter heaven's celeſtial port;
Not like a ſhip-wreck'd mariner to boards and planks
confin'd,]
Daſh'd by each wave, the ſport of every wind,
But like ſome ſtately veſſel, with ſpreading ſail,
Gently riding before a proſperous gale;
There ſhall I join the heavenly ſhining bands,
Whoſe heads wear crowns, and palms adorn their hands;
Then ſhall my ſong with rapturous love aſcend,
To God my pilot, and to Chriſt my friend.
And can we† then, ſuch objects in our view,
In ſloth neglect our ſtudies to purſue;
Rouſe! Rouſe my fellows! preſs for this glorious prize,
In beauteous form it ſtands before your eyes.
Our maſter‖ too with watchful care attends,
And gently leads us to ſuch glorious ends,
By rules ſo pleaſing, and with manners mild,
Impreſſing knowledge on the humble child;
Delightful ſcenes he opens to his view,
By them impell'd we ardently purſue.
Behold the willing boy with joy attends,
Imbibes each rule his knowledge comprehend;
Behold again the active, ſtudious boy,
To gain improvement is his ſole employ.

Now

§ Addreſſed to the maſter.
† Addreſſing himſelf to the ſcholars.
‖ Pointing to the maſter.

Now see the steady youth by learning led,
In virtue's path he doth securely tread;
Behold him ripen into manly years,
His rectitude expels his strongest fears.
Should commerce call him on the busy 'Change,
You'd find him there in honour's walk to range;
His every contract made with prudent care,
Firm to his word, and to his friend sincere.
Or does he practice med'cine's healing art?
Th' restoring cordial he with joy imparts.
If nature struggles with some dire disease,
The suff'ring patient from his skill finds ease.
Or is he for the learned bar design'd?
By him you'll hear each legal form defin'd;
With eloquence he pleads fair freedom's cause,
Britain's great bulwark, liberty and laws.
Should he be called his country to defend,
With fortitude he doth that call attend;
Boldly he leads his country's legions forth,
Or steers her navies to the south or north;
Where'er her foes in malice are combin'd,
Thither he hastes with an heroic mind;
Valiant in battle, but in conquest mild,
Hostile in arms, in peace a very child.
No tarnish'd laurels fade upon his head,
True to his King—he'd for his country bleed.
But if ordain'd the sacred robe to wear,
His kind persuasion, and his love sincere,
Bring back the wanderers' from the paths they trod,
Restore their souls to happiness and God.
Gifts vast as these descend from God above,
Nature's Great Author, and Great Source of Love!
Then hoary heads, with babes and sucklings join,
In praise devout for blessings so divine.

To a young Lady, with a bosom Friend, of Siberian Ermine.

TO check the chilling blast; to guard thy form
From ruthless cold; this gentle shield I send:
May heaven afford thee, in each ruder storm,
The warm protection of a bosom friend!

SELIM.